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HOW TO INTERACT SAFELY WITH POLICE

Free movie coming to Glendale demonstrates safety skills for those with disabilities

GLENDALÉ, Ariz. – (Sept. 9, 2016) - An outstanding film, *BE SAFE: The Movie*, which shows teens and adults with disabilities how to interact safely with first responders is coming to Glendale Public Library's Foothills Branch on Monday, Sept. 19. It shows real police officers in everyday crisis situations and helps viewers understand what may be happening during these encounters. “The film has information that can help reduce confusion and mistrust between citizens and police officers,” said Glendale Interim Police Chief Rick St. John. “We want everyone to be confident when interacting with a police officer, fire fighter or any first responder and trust that first responders are going to take care of their needs.”

Glendale's Community Services Department, Police and Fire Departments, and Councilmember Lauren Tolmachoff have partnered with Autism Society of Greater Phoenix to provide this free event. “Public safety and the relationship between police, fire and all of our citizens remains one of my top priorities,” said Councilmember Lauren Tolmachoff. “I would like to thank the Autism Society of Greater Phoenix and the city of Glendale for coming together to provide this opportunity to our community.”

Be Safe: The Movie

Monday, Sept. 19

6:30 p.m.

Foothills Branch- Glendale Public Library, 19055 N. 57th Ave. Glendale

This movie demonstrates crucial safety skills ranging from following instructions to the right to remain silent. “Sometimes people with Autism, hearing impairments or developmental disabilities don't always know how to react when they meet a police officer,” said Ellen O’Hare, Coordinator of the Northwest Valley High Functioning Autism (HFA). “By teaching everyone how to react in these situations, we're hoping that both families and law enforcement benefit from a peaceful encounter where no one gets hurt.”

For more information about *BE SAFE: The Movie*, visit besafethemovie.com, or email nwvalleyhfa@gmail.com.

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